

Kennesaw State University
College of the Arts
School of Music

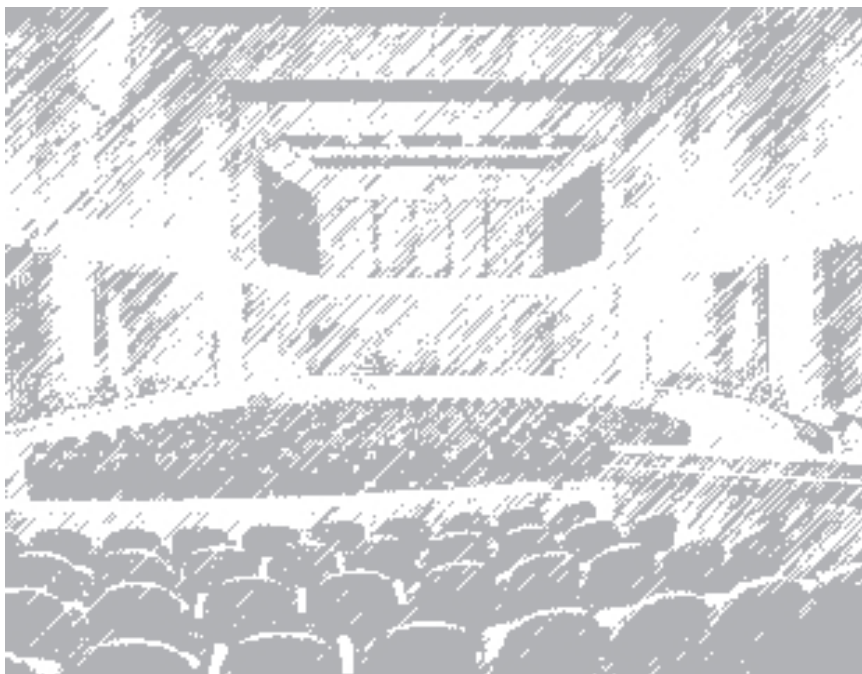


presents

Senior Recital

Joseph S. McBrayer, tenor

Brenda Brent, piano



Friday, December 12, 2014

8:00 p.m.

First United Methodist Church of Marietta

Fifty-second Concert of the 2014-15 Concert Season

program

I.

G. F. HANDEL (1685-1759)

Where'er you walk (Congreve)

from *Semele* [Act II]

ALESSANDRO SCARLATTI (1660-1725)

Le Violette (Morselli)

II.

GABRIEL FAURÉ (1845-1924)

Rencontre

Toujours

Adieu

from *Poème d'un jour* (Grandmougin)

III.

FRANZ SCHUBERT (1797-1828)

Mein!

Der Neugierige

Ungeduld

from *Die schöne Müllerin* (Müller)

IV.

W. A. MOZART (1756-1791)

Un'aura amorosa (Da Ponte)

from *Così fan tutte* [Act I, Scene II]

VICTOR HERBERT (1859-1924)

Thine Alone (Blossom)

from *Eileen*

V.

B. ANDERSSON (b. 1946)

B. ULVAEUS (b. 1945)

Anthem (Rice)

from *Chess*

ROGER QUILTER (1877-1953)

Now Sleeps the Crimson Petal (Tennyson)

JOHN W. WORK, III (1901-1967)

Soliloquy

THEODORE CHANLER (1902-1961)

I Rise when you Enter (Feeney)

This recital is presented in partial fulfillment of requirements for the degree
Bachelor of Music in Performance.
Mr. McBrayer studies voice with Oral Moses.

program notes

I.

Where'er you walk (Congreve) | G. F. Handel
from *Semele* [Act II]

George Frideric Handel was born on February 25th, 1685, in Halle, Germany. He was a lawyer by training, but decided to become a musician after years of stifling his musical genius at the behest of his father, a surgeon. Originally set as an oratorio, the opera, *Semele*, takes its name from the Greek myth it's based on: the mother of Dionysus. This aria is sung by Jupiter as a way to reassure his lover, Semele, that he is all in and that the entire world is in love with her.

Le Violette (Morselli) | Alessandro Scarlatti

Alessandro Scarlatti, born in Palermo, Sicily in 1660, was a leading composer possibly best known for his prolific work writing his 115 operas. Scarlatti used and established many techniques that would be used by much later composers such as the ternary form aria and the standard Italian operatic overture (allegro-adagio-allegro). "Le Violette" is a piece taken from one of Scarlatti's operas but is most often sung now outside of its context and treated as an art song. Though the text leads one to believe this is a very simple song, it is quite the opposite and actually embodies the feeling and excitement of one young and in love learning to stop and smell the flowers.

II.

Rencontre | Gabriel Fauré

Toujours

Adieu

from *Poème d'un jour* (Grandmougin)

Gabriel Fauré was born in Pamiers, France on May 12th, 1845. Fauré spent a large amount of time in the church at an early age and it was there that many in the community recognized his gifts. His education allowed him to meet those that would bring him to moderate fame, but it was only a moderate fame that the composer enjoyed until he reached a more advanced age. Published in 1880, *Poème d'un jour* is the composer's first cycle. Based on Charles Grandmougin's poetry, the cycle follows a short love affair over the course of only a day from meeting to parting. It was after his retirement at the age of 75 that he was really able to focus solely on composition and many believe it was this period that he did some of his best composing.

III.

Mein! I Franz Schubert

Der Neugierige

Ungeduld

from *Die schöne Müllerin* (Müller)

Franz Peter Schubert was born on the cold, Austrian afternoon of January 31st, 1797. Receiving lessons in piano, violin, counterpoint, and singing at an early age, Franz Peter did not wait long to start composing music as he was tossed around in front of the likes of the day's greats such as Antonio Salieri. He continued to compose at a nearly superhuman average of 65 bars per day while still taking lessons. The song cycle, *Die schöne Müllerin*, follows an optimistic young miller who follows the path and advice of a babbling brook that leads him to the lovely maiden of the mill (the "Müllerin"). He falls for her madly and would do anything for her while she eventually seeks favor with a passing hunter, causing our miller to fall into deep despair and drown himself in the very brook that led him to her.

IV.

Un'aura amorosa (Da Ponte) I W. A. Mozart

from *Così fan tutte* [Act I, Scene II]

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was born in 1756 in Austria to a taskmaster musician father who quickly recognized his prodigious son. W. A. Mozart wrote many operas in his short life. His comic opera, *Così fan tutte*, has lasted for many years as its catchy melodies stay with you and its easy-to-relate story of romantic confusion and love quadrangles pull you in. "Un'aura amorosa" is an aria based purely out of love and devotion for Ferrando's lover, Dorabella, from which he is disguising himself.

Thine Alone (Blossom) I Victor Herbert

from *Eileen*

Victor August Herbert was born in 1859 in Dublin, Ireland, but moved soon thereafter to live with his mother and grandfather following the death of his father in 1861. Herbert's grandfather, Samuel Lover, was a painter, novelist, and composer whose influence greatly decided that young Victor's career would be in the arts. *Eileen* is loosely based on a book by Herbert's grandfather and "Thine Alone," a popular piece from the work, has lasted the test of time due to its timeless language and luscious melodies that set that sort of "vaseline on the lens" mood. It has been recorded and performed by many popular singers throughout the twentieth century.

V.

Anthem (Rice) | B. Andersson and B. Ulvaeus
from *Chess*

Chess began as a “concept album” in 1984 before a fully-staged production years later. Famed lyricist Tim Rice (known for his work with Elton John and Andrew Lloyd Weber) was struck to begin a project inspired by Cold War tensions. Rice contacted Benny Andersson and Björn Ulvaeus (of ABBA fame) to aid him in his efforts to get the project off the ground. The plot follows an American and a Soviet Russian chess player in a world championship match. “Anthem” is sung at the end of the first act by the Russian as he explains nations’ borders really should only lie around our hearts.

Now Sleeps the Crimson Petal (Tennyson) | Roger Quilter

Roger Quilter was a successful English song composer born 1 November 1877. His career as a songwriter really launched when popular baritone of the day, Denham Price, sang a selection of Quilter’s songs on recital. It was not long after this that many singers came to see and enjoy the unmistakably English energy and lyric accentuation in Quilter’s songs. Coming from wealth, even in his later days when he was severely suffering from constant illness, Quilter never ceased being Philanthropic as he even aided in many Jews fleeing Nazi-occupied Austria. Tennyson’s beautiful words reflect romantic Victorian sentiment perfectly and softly encourages its intended to be lost in the poet’s loving embrace.

Soliloquy | John W. Work, III

John Wesley Work, III, was born in Tullahoma, Tennessee, in the year 1901 into a family of professional musicians. He worked as a church choir director leading some of the founding Fisk Jubilee Singers. Work taught at Fisk University’s music department for 39 years and led the famed Jubilee Singers for many of those years. His studies and recordings have mainly been in that of Negro spirituals as well as exploring black culture in American history. You can see this influence as well as his keen ability to set poetic text in “Soliloquy.”

I Rise when you Enter (Feeney) | Theodore Chanler

Theodore Ward Chanler was an American composer born in 1902 in Rhode Island. His compositional work is mainly comprised of songs. He studied at many fine institutions including the New York Institute of Musical Art as well as the Cleveland Institute, Brasenose College, and Oxford University. He shortly worked as a music critic at the *Boston Herald* upon his return to the United States and later moved to teaching at the Peabody conservatory and the Longy School in Cambridge,

Massachusetts, until his retirement in 1959. Chanler set many songs using texts by Jesuit Priest, Leonard Feeney. "I Rise" is one of them and most of Feeney's work is very light-hearted in what some would see as in stark contrast with his famous rigidity in his interpretations of church doctrines.

biography

Joseph McBrayer has been singing for as long as he can remember but did not really discover his passion for it until relatively recently. He has been singing in school choirs for many years, but found his solo voice singing musical theatre in high school.

During his time as an owl, you have most likely seen him performing on every stage available from musicals to operas to chorus concerts. Never having a voice lesson until college, Mr. McBrayer was more than blessed to have in Dr. Moses the wonderful teacher he has been, such a mentor and a great friend. It has been such a fantastic experience for growth and learning in the School of Music.

Mr. McBrayer would like to thank all of the fantastic faculty and staff of the KSU School of Music for helping him find himself in the medium, his mother and father for never making him pursue a business degree, and his wonderful, soon-to-be wife, Sam, for seeing past all the characters he's played to his true self.

about the school of music

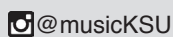
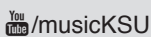
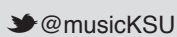
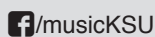
The School of Music at KSU has dedicated, vibrant, and talented faculty and staff that are completely devoted to teaching, performing, scholarship, and serving our community. It is an incredibly exciting place to study, boasting state-of-the-art facilities with opportunities to produce and explore music in a dynamic place that is ahead of the curve for what it means to be a musician in the 21st century. Our students come from the leading musical honor organizations across the region and are poised to lead the cultural offerings and musical education in our area and beyond for years to come.

We welcome you to attend a concert, meet our faculty and staff, and feel the energy and excitement that our students exude. We are fully committed to our purpose as educators, performers, and scholars. We hope that you will find as much enjoyment in our product as we do in producing it.



Michael Alexander
Interim Director, KSU School of Music

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<http://community.kennesaw.edu/GiveToMusic>

upcoming events

Unless otherwise noted, all events are held in Morgan Concert Hall and begin at 8 p.m.

Thursday, January 8
Von Grey with KSU Orchestra

Monday, January 12
Helen Kim, violin
with Sakiko Ohashi, piano

Tuesday, January 13
Faculty Recital: David Watkins, piano

Friday, January 16
Atlanta Symphony Orchestra: Marin Alsop, conductor and Julian Rachlin, violin

Thursday, January 22
Guest Artists: Yakov and Aleksandra Kasman, piano duo

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